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LETTER DATED 3 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ARMENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia regarding the escalation of Azerbaijani military activities in Armenia's border areas in recent days.

I should be grateful if you would circulate this as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander ARZOUMANIAN
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement dated 1 May 1993 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia regarding the encroachment of the Azerbaijani forces into the border regions of the Republic of Armenia

Starting in the early morning of 1 May, Azerbaijan initiated large-scale military operations against the Republic of Armenia.

Divisions of the Azerbaijani army, using different weaponry including heavy artillery, have shelled the populated border areas of the Sisian, Yeghegnadzor, Kapan and Krasnoselsk regions of the Republic of Armenia. During the entire day of 1 May, Azerbaijani forces have also heavily shelled the villages of Voskepar, Barekamavan, Koti, and Voskevan of the Noyemberian region. Five civilians have been killed and one injured.

At the same time, one Azerbaijani division, in violation of the borders of the Republic of Armenia near the village of Dovigh penetrated into Armenian territory. The border troops of the Republic of Armenia have repelled the aggressors.

Thus, instigating the escalation of tension at the Armenian-Azerbaijani borders, and initiating offensive operations, Azerbaijan has violated the cease-fire in the region established during the past few days.

The Azerbaijani Republic is fully responsible for the escalation of the military operations. Such behaviour is in violation of the appeal of the United Nations Security Council resolution which calls for the cessation of military activities and the immediate resumption of CSCE-sponsored negotiations, and is intended to lead to the failure of the processes emanating from Security Council resolution 822 (1993).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia expresses the hope that the United Nations, the CSCE, and other international organizations, will henceforth take into account the consequences of the Azerbaijani policies on the peace process and make their judgements about the Azerbaijani policies accordingly.

The discrepancy between the Azerbaijani rhetoric and its actual behaviour shows that by giving in to Azerbaijani demands, the international community is encouraging Azerbaijan in its militaristic policies. All the while, Azerbaijan continues to show total disrespect towards the norms of international law and the resolution of the United Nations.

The escalation of military operations immediately after the adoption of the United Nations resolution once again proves the necessity of an immediate resumption of negotiations, which must give priority to the establishment of a cease-fire guaranteed by the international community and supervised by international monitors.